Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Friday 16 Dec 2022 until 23:59 on Saturday 17 Dec 2022

Forecast Issued on Friday 16 Dec 2022 at 03:03

Confidence: High for a change to a milder west to southwest flow with fronts crossing the area, but lowering confidence for the detail of worst of associated conditions.

Headline for Friday 16 Dec 2022: Mainly dry with brighter spells. Freezing level lifting a little as southwest winds develop. Severe wind chill at height.

Mountain weather hazards on Friday 16 Dec 2022

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Medium Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Low Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Partly cloudy (night)	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	Light snow
Precipitation probability					
00%	<05%	10%	10%	20%	40%

Forecast for Friday 16 Dec 2022

Weather: Dry with clear spells and frost at first. Mainly dry through the day with only a few light isolated wintry showers appearing between spells of weak winter sunshine. Cloud increasing for the evening to bring some patchy snow, probably turning to rain and sleet at lower levels.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 90% plus at first becoming 60% for the afternoon

Low cloud and visibility: Very good, briefly poor or very poor in showers, virtually nil within cloud with bases lowering 500m at times, particularly later in the day.

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Forecast for Friday 16 Dec 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	16/18 SW	20/24 SW	23/28 S	26/32 SW	27/34 SW	28/36 SW	29/37 SW
600	12/14 SW	13/17 SW	16/21 SW	20/29 SW	20/30 SW	22/31 SW	23/33 SW
300	4/14 SW	4/16 SW	5/18 SW	7/23 SW	8/26 SW	8/25 SW	9/26 SW
Valley	0/6 W	1/9 SW	4/15 SW	7/23 SW	9/25 SW	10/26 SW	10/25 SW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-2/-9	-2/-9	-2/-10	-2/-10	-2/-10	-2/-10	-2/-10
600	-2/-7	-1/-7	-1/-7	-0/-7	-0/-7	-0/-7	0/-7
300	-1/-3	0/-2	2/-1	2/-1	2/-2	2/-2	2/-2
Valley	-2/-4	-0/-2	3/1	4/1	4/1	4/1	4/1
Freezing Level*	100m	300m	500m	400m	400m	600m	700m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Severe wind chill at height.

Forecast for Saturday 17 Dec 2022

Weather: Rather cloudy with showers or longer periods of snow, sleet and rain. Snow level around 400-500m.

Maximum wind: South to southwest mean 20-25 mph for the morning, with gusts reaching 35 mph across most exposed ridges and summits. Winds easing a little by early afternoon.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 10-20%

Low cloud and visibility: Good or very good, becoming moderate or poor in rain, very poor in snow, virtually nil within cloud with bases extensive from 500m.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Minus 6 Celsius increasing plus 5 Celsius by late afternoon
At 800m: Minus 2 Celsius
Freezing level: 500-600m

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Thursday 15 December 2022 Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:39. Full report: Another stunning and very cold day in the Lakes with terrain widely frozen down to valley level. The general lack of precipitation since the start of the cold spell means that snow cover is actually quite lean, with rime ice and hoar frost being more abundant than snow, particularly on north and east-facing (shady) slope aspects. South-facing (sunny) slopes are now relatively bare with little or no snow or ice present. Swirral and Striding edges are a mixture of all of the above with plenty of exposed rock to negotiate as well (particularly on Striding Edge). Some ice is also present where snow has been compacted by walkers' feet. Microspikes are very useful in the current conditions. Large areas of water ice are also present on and around paths adjacent to drainage lines, particularly at low and mid-elevations and care should be taken around these areas. Many upland tarns are frozen over, however, the ice may not be sufficiently thick to hold body weight. The summit windchill (feels-like) temperature in relatively light winds today was around -7ºC making it feel very cold if stood still even for short periods of time. Full winter clothing (warm and waterproof) including hats and gloves, a map and compass as well as a headtorch are all essential for anyone venturing into the hills. It is recommended that anyone considering steep and exposed routes such as the Helvellyn edges carries an ice axe and crampons, however, given the very lean snow cover at the moment, microspikes may be more useful. Temperature: minus 1.7 C, Maximum wind speed 12.2 mph, Wind chill: minus 7.7 C, Average wind speed: 9.5 mph

Issued at: 03:03 on Fri 16 Dec 2022

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